

SC State University Foundation

As we move deeper into this academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your loyal support of SC State University. In spite of the numerous challenges, last year's contributions increased versus the prior year. I am pleased to report that SCSU Foundation has now grown to over \$5 MM with half representing endowed funds. As a result of sustained growth, the Foundation Board voted to eliminate the 5% maintenance fee effective January 1, 2008.

Therefore, contributions are no longer assessed upfront service charges and operating expenses will now be sourced via investment returns.

Additionally, the Foundation continues to identify and assess process improvement opportunities. After benchmarking several peer institutions, it became apparent that the University Foundation needed to restructure its operation. The University Foundation has been in existence for more than 35 years and the number of accounts has grown to nearly four hundred. We have been increasingly challenged to effectively manage this number of accounts with limited resources. As we transition to a new state of mind, we are streamlining operations to allow more focus on scholarship and portfolio management.

Therefore, the Foundation has realigned its operation by consolidating into 5 broad areas of fund accounts.

Endowment Fund: Limited to \$50,000 and above, governed by a gift agreement between the University Foundation and donor.

General Scholarship Fund: Governed by criteria set by the University and Foundation.

Presidential Scholarship Fund: Established to attract freshman with high GPA and SAT scores. Criteria will be established by the University and the Foundation.

Unrestricted Funds: Established to fund items/projects that are not covered by State funding but are necessary for the operation of the University. These items will be approved by the Foundation based on our operating agreement with the University.

Miscellaneous Fund: This fund will house any non-cash contributions such as real estate and personal property.

Please recognize that we will continue to honor all existing accounts based on their gift agreements but all new contributions will be received and managed within one of the above 5 accounts.

This restructured format will improve efficiencies and overall effectiveness, thereby allowing more focus on portfolio management with quarterly comprehensive reports.

Again, thank you for supporting SC State University and our new state of mind!

Jackie Epps, Ph.D.

Jackie Epps

Interim Vice President, Institutional Advancement

Interim Executive Director, SCSU Foundation



Join SC State Club 1000

The Office of Alumni Relations is searching for 2000 Alumni to give one thousand dollars annually. The ultimate goal is to generate \$2000,000.00 to support the students and programs at SC State University. Become a member of Club 1000 today!

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at:

(803) 536-8946

SC State University Foundation 2009 Scholarship Gala & Tribute Saturday, February 21, 2009



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Focus

SOUTH CAROLINA
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A newsletter for alumni, friends, faculty & staff | November 2008



Shannon Blair, a sophomore biology honors scholar, was crowned Miss Homecoming 2008. Miss Blair was escorted by Antoine Burroughs, a senior sport and fitness management major who attends Troy University in Troy, Alabama.

Focus on the future

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- o Chairman Lumus Byrd, Jr. prepared to lead the Board of Trustees
- o SC State and Colorado State University partner for “Shades of Promise”

A Message from the President



Dr. George E. Cooper

Greetings,

South Carolina State University's students, faculty, staff and alumni are continuing to excel in all facets of life.

We recently held our Homecoming Weekend which was quite successful. This served as a delightful event as our many constituents converged on the campus for a most celebratory time. We thank all of you who attended and supported the game and our weekend's events. We also thank all of the individuals who made this Homecoming a success.

Also during this time, the University hosted the Shades of Promise participants from Colorado State University. The University continues to embrace diverse cultures as a major part of the learning experience. The Shades of Promise program is a collaboration between South Carolina State University and Colorado State University which embraces diversity and creates working teams dedicated to servant leadership principles, with the goal to complete both domestic and international service projects.

Based on results of Board elections in June 2008, Mr. Lumus Byrd, Jr. has assumed the role of Chairman of the South Carolina State University's Board of Trustees, effective late September. The University also welcomes the new Vice Chairman, Dr. John H. Corbitt (Seat 4, District 4) and Secretary, Mr. Robert M. Nance (Seat 7, At-Large). The University also recognizes the outstanding service of former Chairman Mr. Maurice G. Washington (Seat 6, District 6) and we thank him for his six years of service as Board Chairman.

As we continue to celebrate our history and transition for the future, we do so during a very economically challenging time for our state and nation.

As some of you may be aware, as of mid-August, a 13% percent reduction in our state general fund expenditures for fiscal year 2008 was imposed. With a focus on maintaining the quality and integrity of academic programs and other critical operations of the university, several cost savings measures were put into place.

Fast forward to October, an additional cut for Higher Education institutions across the state was approved bringing the total cuts for South Carolina State University to approximately 25% this academic year alone.

What does this mean for our institution? This means that we must understand that the state in which the economy current stands and how we are able to find alternative ways of meeting the needs of students by continuing to provide the academic excellence we have been known for.

Despite this challenge that we face, we continue to be optimistic. We know the importance of education and we will be diligent in ensuring that our students continue to receive valuable education.

I will continue to update you on our strategy moving forward as we prepare for this most difficult financial time. As always, I thank you for your continued support of South Carolina State University.

George E. Cooper

Homecoming 2008 Highlights

"It's More Than Just A Game"



Abrianna Williams, a Felton Laboratory School honor student, was all smiles when she took a photo with one of her favorite performers, Bobby Valentino.



Grammy Award Winning Singer and Actress Brandy Norwood signed autographs and took pictures with fans when she made a surprise visit during Homecoming 2008.



Miss SC State, Uchechi Egbuhuzo (centered) is surrounded by the queens of her court, (l to r) Miss Freshman, Daricn Grant, Miss Sophomore, Ashley Graham, Miss Junior, Jennifer Conwell, and Miss Senior, Tremelia Burns.



First Lady and President Cooper (right) were honored to have (from left) Mrs. Margaret Lesesne, '51 and Mr. Hank Allen, '78, serve as grand marshals in the Homecoming Parade.

SC State and Colorado State University partner for program . . .



SC State University (SC State) and Colorado State University (CSU) continued to collaborate on a project to bring students from both campuses together to create working teams dedicated to servant leadership principles. The Shades of Promise program once again brought the two groups together as CSU students visited SC State during Homecoming 2008 weekend.

In March, SC State students and officials traveled to CSU to begin a multicultural leadership project with the hope of bringing a better understanding of each student's differences and similarities. Additionally, the students discussed multicultural issues and social justice.

SC State's campus is 83 percent African American and 13 percent other ethnicities, while CSU is 90 percent white and 10 percent other ethnicities.

"The Shades of Promise is an exchange of values and beliefs of ideals between students with very different backgrounds," said Jake Blumberg, Shades of Promise organizer at Colorado State. "Students from both campuses are able to come together and learn from their unique differences and understand diversity. This project shows that we can work toward social justice and equality," Blumberg continued.

Colorado State students arrived at Charleston International Airport in Charleston, SC, with greetings from SC State students and Shades of Promise advisor, Cammy Grate. They then took a Gullah Tour in Charleston, SC, guided by Alphonso Brown, a 1966 SC State alumnus and owner of Gullah Tours.

During the welcome breakfast on Friday morning, CSU students received a warm welcome from Orangeburg Mayor Paul Miller. Mayor Miller encouraged the students to view some of the unique sites that the community has to offer. They received that opportunity as they prepared for the Homecoming Parade on Saturday Morning, which began at Edisto Memorial Gardens. Colorado State students also experienced a first as they opened the

Homecoming step show with SC State students.

The biggest difference shared by both teams as they visited each other's campuses: The climate!

"Colorado has a lot of dry air and it was a little difficult for me to breathe when we visited in March," says Amann Holden, senior mathematics and social studies education

major at SC State. "The humidity here in the south is definitely different for me. It's something I would have to get used to," stated Blumberg.

The SC State team is led by Dr. Valerie Fields, interim vice president for Student Affairs and Cammy Grate, Shades of Promise, advisor. Dr. Blanche Hughes leads the CSU team.

"Shades of Promise" will be traveling to Tanzania, East Africa in January 2009 to participate in various service learning projects. Additionally, the team proposed to work with the Oprah Foundation in an effort to complete the international service project in South Africa at her newly built Academy for Girls.

Both teams will also be traveling to various locations in Louisiana to assist with service learning projects.



"Shades of Promise" enjoy the Greek Step Show during Homecoming Week 2008. "Shades of Promise" consist of SC State and Colorado State University students in an initiative to create working teams dedicated to servant and leadership principles.

Chairman Lumus Byrd, Jr. prepared to lead the Board of Trustees

Chairman Lumus Byrd Jr., '65, officially began his tenure as chairman of SC State's Board of Trustees on September 25, 2008. "I'm prepared to lead and manage the Board, and I believe Dr. Cooper is prepared to lead and manage the University," said Chairman Byrd.

As Chairman, there are five primary duties that Byrd, must uphold:

- Possessing extensive knowledge of the institution and its complexities;
- Conducting good Board meetings;
- Acting as the Boards' strongest advocate;
- Establishing clear expectations;
- Developing ways to strengthen the Board's effectiveness;

An SC State alumnus and native of Clinton SC, Chairman Byrd, has served as Chairman, of Presbyterian College's Board

of Visitors and the Laurens County Chamber of Commerce, the first African-American to hold that position. Additionally, he has held membership and leadership positions in a wide array of



On September 25, 2008, Trustee Board Chairman Maurice Washington officially handed over the gavel to chair-elect Lumus Byrd, Jr. Pictured are (from left front row): Trustee Linda K. Edwards-Duncan, SC State President George E. Cooper, Chairman Lumus Byrd, Jr., former chairman Maurice Washington, Trustee Dr. John H. Corbitt, Trustee Robert M. Nance, Trustee Dr. Shirley Portee Martin, (2nd row) Trustee Earl A. Bridges, Jr., Trustee Walter L. Tobin, Trustee Reggie Gallant, Trustee Karl V. Green, and Trustee Jonathan Pinson. Not pictured, Trustee Martha Scott Smith.

position, Byrd keeps this motto at heart: **"Creating Opportunities and Fulfilling Dreams with A New State of Mind."**

organizations to include: The Laurens County Literacy Council, the Laurens Country Community Foundation; the Rotary Club of Clinton, SC; the U.S. Selective Service System; and the Carolina First Bank Advisory Board.

Earlier this year, Chairman Byrd was awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent, South Carolina's highest honor for volunteer and community service, by Governor Mark Sanford. More recently, he was awarded the 2008 Martha Anne Green Service to Church and College Award during Presbyterian College's 129th Fall Convocation. The award was presented to Chairman Byrd for his outstanding volunteer and community service efforts.

Chairman Byrd is proud to accept his new position and is grateful to the Board for their support and vote. "I am thankful for the trust my colleagues have in me," he said. As he takes his

THE INTERLINK ALLIANCE

Nine Colleges announce new educational partnership

Nine colleges and universities officially announced a new educational partnership — The Interlink Alliance. The unique alliance will address some of the most pressing issues facing these and other higher education institutions.

The Interlink Alliance includes Ohio University in Athens, Ohio; Spelman College in Atlanta; Hampton University in Hampton, Va.; Wilberforce University and Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio; Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC.; North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC.; **SC State University** in Orangeburg, SC.; and Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va.

Members of the alliance have pledged to work cooperatively in three key areas: faculty development, student leadership and an African-American male initiative that engages and motivates prospective college students as early as middle school.

"SC State University is very pleased to be a part of the Interlink Alliance. This alliance provides an opportunity to engage with HBCUs and other universities to positively impact faculty and student development. This partnership will also assist with recruitment and retention challenges that are faced by many institutions of higher learning, participating in serving students who need access to higher education," said SC State President George E. Cooper.

Although many consortia pair traditionally white schools and historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), they have tended to focus on specific research areas or projects. Or they have been recruitment conduits, primarily funneling undergraduates from HBCUs into post-baccalaureate programs at traditionally

white institutions. The Interlink Alliance core group put special emphasis on a peer structure that benefits all participating institutions and offers collaboration opportunities for multiple institutions at once.

Among outcomes members have discussed so far are increasing the number of students earning graduate degrees, increasing campus diversity at all institutions, and sponsoring faculty and student exchanges that foster deeper understanding of cultural perspectives on educational policies, laws and resources.

Consortium initiatives include, but are not limited to:

- Initiative for African-American males — Establishes partnerships with K-12 schools, focusing on projects to support access and opportunity for African-American males to pursue a college education.
- Faculty development — Integral to the consortium is the opportunity for faculty training, advancement and the pursuit of doctoral degrees.
- Student leadership development — This initiative will pursue a multipronged approach to preparing students for high-level careers in educational institutions, corporations and governments in the global economy.
- Research collaboration — This alliance will bring researchers together from multiple fields, with special emphasis on cancer and biomedical research.
- Infrastructure — Member institutions will collaborate on infrastructure improvement through sharing best practices of successful programs, services and partnerships.

The LAPD Program at SC State University receives support from Blue Cross Blue Shield, Shaw Areva Mox, and Time Warner Cable



The College of Business and Applied Professional Sciences at SC State University recently received \$7000 from BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, Inc.; \$10,000 from Shaw AREVA MOX SERVICES, LLC and \$7500 from Time Warner Cable of South Carolina, Inc. to support its Leadership and Professional Development (LAPD) Program.

The LAPD Program, directed by Dr. Ann S. Winstead, is specifically designed to equip students with the "soft" skills necessary to begin and to advance in their careers as responsible corporate and community citizens. One aspect of the Program is to promote leadership development through interaction with senior level executives who provide various perspectives that form the context for leading in government and business. The experience is designed to motivate and challenge students while, at the same time, build self-esteem and character, and serve as a catalyst in the development of leadership skills.

"In addition to supporting segments of the leadership program, the funds will be used to support an inaugural 'Leadership Symposium' which will be held on Nov. 18, 2008," said Dr. Winstead.

During the Symposium, the BlueCross BlueShield Emerging Leader Award and a Shaw AREVA MOX Services Leadership Scholarship will be awarded.

"The Business Program embraces the partnerships with these three entities to enhance the leadership skills of our students," said Dr. Robert T. Barrett, dean of the College of Business and Applied Professional Sciences at SC State. "These partnerships support the mission of the Business Program which is 'to provide quality management education and leadership development to produce competitive graduates for a global and diverse environment,' he continued.

For additional information about the LAPD Program or to register for the Inaugural Leadership Symposium, contact Dr. Ann S. Winstead, director, Leadership and Professional Development Program, at 803-534- 4861 or Ms. Pat McDonald at 803-516-8186.

Deputy Administrator for U.S. Defense Programs visits SC State

Robert Smolen, National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) deputy administrator for U.S. defense programs recently visited the James E. Clyburn University Transportation Center (JECUTC) at SC State.

Smolen directs the Stockpile Stewardship Program (SSP), which is responsible for maintaining the safety, security, and reliability of the Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile.

Smolen's visit was in conjunction with the James E. Clyburn University Transportation Center's Environmental Policy Institute (EPI), which conducts research for the National Nuclear Security Administration on the safe and secure transportation of nuclear sources. On Sept. 27, 2008, the EPI's proposal was approved by the NNSA and provided \$2 million in funding to continue research, outreach and training, and curriculum development for the Nuclear Engineering program at SC State.

During his visit, Smolen toured engineering facilities, ROTC

units and 1890 departments. He also held group sessions with SC State nuclear engineering students and ROTC cadets, stimulating their involvement with engineering and technology services.

"The National Nuclear Security Administration has been very active in partnerships with SC State for some time. We are interested in providing practical opportunities for SC State graduates by placing them in environmental and National security programs, said Smolen."

Smolen also met with University officials to include President George E. Cooper, Dr. Leonard McIntyre, interim vice president for Research and Curriculum Development, Mr. Elbert Malon, assistant vice president for Sponsored Programs, Dr. Reinhart Brown, interim executive director of the JECUTC, Dr. Kenneth Lewis, dean of the College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Technology, Col. Heyward Stackhouse and Capt. Norman Garvin.



Robert L. Smolen

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SC State's Department of Business Administration Introduces International Business Minor

SC State University Department of Business Administration was recently awarded a United States Department of Education Business and International Education grant (BIE) to assist with the launch of an international business minor at SC State.

The grant, entitled **"Engaging Globalization through Curriculum Development,"** supports study abroad opportunities for students and assists with SC State faculty development in international business and community outreach. The total value of the grant is \$359,207.00.

"Globalization is having a huge impact in our society. It is important for our students to become exposed to ideals and learn about business opportunities outside of the United States," said Dr. David Jamison, associate professor of Marketing and International Business minor advisor.

The four primary objectives of the BIE grant are:

- To infuse the business curriculum with additional international content through the creation and delivery of new and enhanced courses in international business.
- To inspire students to pursue studies and careers in international business by offering a minor in international business supported by enhanced international study and travel opportunities.
- To enhance faculty expertise in the field of international business through training, teaching and travel opportunities.
- To create partnerships with businesses in the community which takes advantage of the emergent international business focus and faculty and student expertise at the University.

SC State has been awarded the BIE grant three times, in the past twelve years. In 1996, the grant was awarded to assist SC State faculty with the development needed to teach international business under the business education curriculum. The grant was

awarded in 2002 to assist SC State in community outreach efforts.

This year's grant, which is available through 2010, was awarded to develop an international focus in the business education curriculum. Between twenty-five and thirty BIE grants are awarded nationwide each year. SC State is the only Historically Black College and University (HBCU) to receive the grant this year.



| a new state of mind

"It is an honor for SC State to receive this grant. The development of the International Business minor is an important step in increasing the University's educational offerings. Through this program our graduates will become globally aware and internationally engaged," said SC State President George E. Cooper.

SC State's international business minor has been approved and is currently available as an enrollment option for students. Additionally, SC State students who declare the international business minor are eligible to receive scholarships to participate in international study abroad programs currently being planned in Africa, Brazil, China, Europe and other locations.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to be exposed to other cultures as they will gain knowledge of new languages, skills and attitudes of global business programs," said Dr. Jamison.

SC State professors, Dr. Renu Singh, international marketing and Dr. Gouhua Ma, international finance, were significant contributors in SC State's attainment of the grant.

For more information about SC State's international business minor, contact Dr. David Jamison at (803) 536-8443 or djamison@scsu.edu.

SC State Student Wins First Place during Liquid Crystal Day at Kent State University



Saba Hamidi Vadeghani

SC State student and National Science Foundation (NSF) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) scholar, Saba Hamidi Vadeghani, won first place in the Liquid Crystal Day Poster Presentation session, recently held at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

Liquid Crystal Day serves to provide platforms for intellectual and enlightening interactions between students and researchers from different academic and professional areas.

Originally from Iran, Vadeghani moved to Orangeburg, SC, with her family at a young age. Vadeghani, a junior Physics major at SC State, was among the students who were selected to give oral presentations during the event. This derived from her abstract and poster submission on the research topic, liquid crystals.

"Being in the Liquid Crystal Institute (LCI)—the nation's leader in liquid crystal education, research, and technology was a delight," said Vadeghani. "I enjoyed the intellectual and inspiring atmosphere that was set throughout the variety of programs. I highly encourage my fellow students who are enthusiastic about physics and dedicated to do research, to consider LCI as a possible internship site," she continued.

Prior to participating in the Liquid Crystal Day Poster Presentation session in Sept. 2008, Vadeghani completed a ten-week summer research internship at Kent State University through the 2008 Summer Research Experience for Undergraduate Students (REU).

Vadeghani also won 1st place for her liquid crystal poster at the 2008 Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP) National Research Conference in Atlanta, Ga. in October.

Smolen continued from page 2

"We look forward to creating opportunities with the National Nuclear Security Administration and deputy administrator Smolen as we further our research at SC State and the James E. Clyburn Transportation Center," said Dr. Reinhart Brown, interim executive director for the JECUTC.

Prior to his retirement in Aug. 2007, Smolen was commander of the Air Force District of Washington (AFDW), the Air Force component to the Joint Forces headquarters-National Capital Region, organizing, training and equipping combat forces for the aerospace expeditionary forces, homeland operations, civil support, national special security events and ceremonial events.

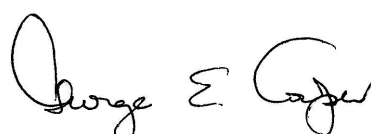
His career includes operational experience in both ground and airborne nuclear missile command and control. He served on the staff of the Secretary of Defense and was the Director of Manpower and Personnel on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He twice

served in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force in the Office of Legislative Liaison on Capitol Hill—first in the House of Representatives and later in the Chief of the Senate office. While assigned to Air Force Headquarters in the Pentagon, he was both the Deputy and later the Director of the Air Force Office of Nuclear Counterproliferation.

Smolen received his bachelor of arts degree in communications from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. He earned two advanced degrees, the first in public administration from the University of Oklahoma and a second in international relations from Auburn University. Additionally, he was a fellow in the Seminar XXI Program, Foreign Policy and the National Interest, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National and International Security Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

SC State UNIVERSITY

Invest in the next generation of leadership here at SC State University as we prepare our students to compete in a dynamic global society.



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